

Checklist for the Appraisal of Review Articles

(Leave items blank that do not apply.)

Title _____

Author _____ Journal _____ Vol. ____ Issue ____ Date _____

The topic covered by the review is of interest. Yes Partly No

The Introduction provides a compelling need for the review. Yes Partly No

A clear study question is presented. Yes Partly No

The study question is focused on a specific clinical issue. Yes Partly No

Methods are described in enough detail so that the study could be duplicated. Yes Partly No

The inclusion/exclusion criteria used to select articles are provided. Yes Partly No

The inclusion/exclusion criteria are appropriate. Yes Partly No

Query terms specified for the literature search are fitting. Yes Partly No

The number and choice of databases utilized in the literature search is sufficient. Yes Partly No

The validity of the studies included in the review was assessed. Yes Partly No

Studies were appraised in a dependable manner. Yes Partly No

The included studies are randomized trials. Yes Partly No

The results of the studies are similar (homogeneity). Yes Partly No

Sources of heterogeneity are addressed. Yes Partly No

The synthesis logically flows from the results of the included studies. Yes Partly No

An estimate of treatment effect is provided. Yes Partly No

Statements made in the Discussion section are reasonable and logical. Yes Partly No

Study limitations are listed. Yes Partly No

References are accurate and appropriately used. Yes Partly No

References are from respected evidence sources. Yes Partly No

Suggestions for future research are offered. Yes Partly No

Overall impression about the trustworthiness of this article:

Good – Accept all or most of the article's findings.

Fair – Cautiously accept some of its findings.

Poor – Do not accept any of its findings.

Key points to consider: _____

If acceptable, how will I apply the results to my patient/practice? _____
